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ART 34 AMDT

What is claimed is:

1. A process for producing a suspension of
5 hydrophobic oxidic particles which has a defined, adjustable viscosity, characterized in that it comprises suspending low structured hydrophobic oxidic particles in at least one organic suspension agent and then adding from 0.05% to 15% by weight based on the
10 suspension medium of high structured hydrophobic oxidic particles, low structured hydrophobic oxidic particles being hydrophobic oxidic particles which, compared with the corresponding high structured hydrophobic oxidic particles, have an at least 30% reduced dibutyl
15 phthalate absorption and an at least 50% higher tamped density.
2. The process of claim 1 characterized in that the hydrophobic oxidic particles used are hydrophobic
20 pyrogenic oxidic particles or hydrophobic precipitated oxidic particles.
3. The process of claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the hydrophobic pyrogenic oxidic particles used
25 comprise a material selected from silicon oxide, aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, titanium oxide or a mixture thereof.
4. The process of at least one of claims 1 to 3,
30 characterized in that the hydrophobic pyrogenic oxidic particles used are hydrophobic pyrogenic silicas.
5. The process of at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the low structured hydrophobic
35 oxidic particles are used in an amount from 0.05% to 2.5% by weight based on the suspension medium.
6. The process of at least one of claims 1 to 5,

characterized in that it utilizes an organic suspension agent selected from alcohols, ketones, ethers, esters, aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbons, amides or sulfoxides.

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7. The process of at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the suspension medium used includes water as well as the organic suspension agent.

10 8. A suspension of hydrophobic oxidic particles which has a defined, adjustable viscosity, characterized in that low structured hydrophobic oxidic particles and from 0.05% to 15% by weight based on the suspension medium of high structured hydrophobic oxidic particles
15 are present in suspension in at least one organic suspension agent, low structured hydrophobic oxidic particles being hydrophobic oxidic particles which, compared with the corresponding high structured hydrophobic oxidic particles, have an at least 30%
20 reduced dibutyl phthalate absorption and an at least 50% higher tamped density.

9. The suspension of claim 8 obtained by a process as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7.

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10. The suspension of claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the suspension comprises from 0.05% to 2.5% by weight of hydrophobic low-structured oxidic particles based on the suspension medium.

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11. The suspension of at least one of claims 8 to 10, characterized by a dynamic viscosity from 1.0 to 1 000 mPa s at a shear rate of greater than 20 s^{-1} .

35 12. The suspension of at least one of claims 8 to 11, characterized in that the suspension medium comprises water as well as the organic suspension agent.

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13. The use of the suspension of at least one of claims 8 to 12 for producing soil and water repellent coatings on articles.

5 14. The use of claim 13, characterized in that the suspension is applied to at least one surface of an article and the suspension medium is subsequently removed.

10 15. The use of claim 13 or 14, characterized in that the suspension is applied by knife coating.

15 16. The use of at least one of claims 13 to 15 for producing soil and water repellent coatings on textiles.

17. The use of claim 16 for producing apparel, industrial textiles and textile building fabrics.